

King County Asthma Program (KCAP) News

Volume 1, Issue 1

Winter 2008

Free In-Home Programs for People with Asthma!

Welcome to the first edition of the KCAP newsletter! Please allow us to introduce our program to you.

Hello, my name is Miriam and I am the project coordinator for the King county Asthma Program (KCAP), and I am pleased to tell you about our one of a kind program. The KCAP consists of two grant-funded efforts, one for low-income adults (age 18-65) with asthma and the other for low-income children with asthma (ages birth-17 years). Both programs are focused on reducing the asthma burden by helping clients correctly take and manage their medications, teaching them what to do when asthma symptoms worsen and to help them recognize and reduce asthma triggers in their home environment. Both programs utilize Community Health Workers (CHW) who visit clients in their homes. CHWs are particularly well-suited to serve as home visitors among low-income, ethnically diverse households because they share community culture and life experiences with their clients. CHWs also provide trigger reduction resources such as allergen-impermeable mattress and pillow encasements, vacuums, and cleaning kits to effectively remove dust and mold. Over the year-long program, CHWs make 3-4 visits to the clients' homes.



Miriam Philby
KCAP Program Manager

At a Glance:

Community health workers work with patients on:

- Controlling asthma
- Reducing triggers in the home
- Using asthma medicines correctly
- Doing an asthma action plan
- Working with health care providers
- Using free supplies such as environmentally friendly cleaning supplies and vacuums

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Frequently Asked Questions (FAQS)

In each edition, we will list several questions we are asked related to aspects of our program. We welcome your inquiries. Please direct your questions to: Karen Artz, Project Nurse.
karen.artz@kingcounty.gov

Q: Where do your clients come from?

A: Clients come from a variety of health care facilities that serve low-income adults and families. Facilities include: Harborview Hospital, Public Health Clinics in King County, Sea-Mar (which serves clients with drug and alcohol-related problems), University of Washington Provider Networks (UWPN) and community health clinics. Clients may also self-refer.

Q: What are the asthma statistics for children for your community?

A: At least 23,000 King County children age 0-17 have asthma (6.0%), making it the most common chronic childhood illness. Low income and minority children bear a disproportionate share of the asthma burden. In King County, the asthma prevalence among black children is 62% higher than among whites. Also, children living in households with incomes less than \$50,000 are 41% more likely to have asthma than those living in more affluent households and the rate of hospitalization for low-income children in King County is 188% higher than among children in more affluent areas.

Please don't forget to send us your questions!

Meet the KCAP Team

Here are the employees who make the King County Asthma Program possible!

CHWs

Michelle

As a community health worker, I am proud to be a part of the SKCPH Asthma Program. Providing education and concrete resources to parents and children which in turn reduces existing disparities is a part of the good work. Isi sepuede!



Margarita

My name is Margarita and I love going out to people's home and seeing how I can help them with their asthma and their diabetes. I've been doing this work for eight years.



Maria

Hola. My name is Maria. I like playing volleyball. I love surrounding myself with people. What I love the most about my job is that I can work with parents and children to reduce triggers in their home and to know more about how to control their asthma.



Administration

Sean

Hi! I'm Sean the Administrative Specialist for the team. I take care of the ordering of participant supplies so the CHWs can give our participants the tools they need to improve their health & help control their asthma. I love what I do.



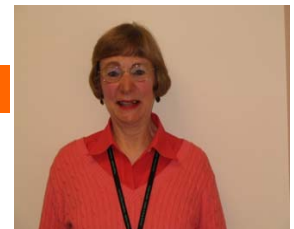
Miriam

As the program manager, I oversee the day to day operations of the program and ensure all staff have what they need to successfully provide services to our participants. I work with community clinics and providers to make sure that our services reach their patients with asthma. I am proud to be part of a team that is so talented and dedicated to our participants and the community.



Karen

It is a privilege to work with the KCAP team to improve the health of our clients. My goals are to ensure that the Community Health Workers have up-to-date protocols to guide them and to help increase their skills in motivational interview so that their client visits can be the most effective.



Meet the KCAP Team contd.

Scientific Team

**JIM**

Jim Krieger, MD, MPH is chief of the Chronic Disease and Injury Prevention Section at Public Health - Seattle & King County, Clinical Professor of Medicine and Health Services at the University of Washington and Attending Physician at Harborview Medical Center. He is principal investigator/director of the HomeBASE and Medicaid Asthma Projects. His work on asthma includes NIH-funded studies of in-home asthma education programs, developing integrated systems of asthma control, evaluating the impact on asthma of improving housing conditions, improving the quality of medical care for asthma through chairing the asthma track of the Washington Collaborative to Improve Health, serving on the Washington Asthma Initiative

**LIN**

Lin Song, PhD, is an epidemiologist with Public Health – Seattle & King County. Lin has worked on a number of asthma-related projects during the past 12 years, including the current HomeBASE and the Medicaid Asthma Projects. Lin's main work activities for these projects include database development, data management, and data analysis.

Making Referrals

We are currently serving low-income King County residents who speak Spanish or English and have a diagnosis of asthma. To refer to this program or to get more information, **please call: (206) 263-8182 or fax a referral to (206) 205-0525.** Thanks for your referral and here's to good health!

King County Asthma Program
Public Health – Seattle & King County Chinook Building
401 Fifth Avenue, Suite 900
Seattle, WA 98104-4005

Public Health
Seattle & King County 

REFERRAL TO KING COUNTY ASTHMA PROGRAM



Fax this form to:

King County Asthma Program

Public Health – Seattle & King County

Seattle, WA 98122

Fax: (206)205-0525 Phone: (206) 263-8182

To be eligible for the King County Asthma Project, participants must:

Have an asthma diagnosis

Live in King County

Low Income

Clinic Name: _____ Date: ____/____/____

Person Providing Referral _____ (MD, ARNP, RN, PHN)

Phone: (____) _____ Fax: (____) _____

Client's Name: (first) _____ (last) _____

Date of Birth: ____/____/____ Age: _____ Gender: M F

Address: _____ Apt. #: _____

Home: (____) _____ work: (____) _____ Cell: (____) _____

Leave a message: Y/N

Interpreter Needed? (Specify language) _____

Note Additional Information: